



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 0320-0021 (previously HOOV 121)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Michael D. Hooven

Serial No.: 10/015,440

Filed: December 13, 2001

Group Art No.: 3739

Examiner: Rosiland S. Rollins

For: COMBINATION ABLATION AND
VISUALIZATION APPARATUS
FOR ABLATING CARDIAC TISSUE

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Renée C. Barthel

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER RULE 312

Dear Sir:

This Response under Rule 312 is being submitted to assure that all the documents submitted to the Examiner in Applicants' Information Disclosure Statement are properly indicated as having been considered by the Examiner.

On October 4, 2004, Applicants submitted an Information Disclosure Statement to the Patent and Trademark Office. The Information Disclosure Statement was accompanied by a one-page listing of cited references by the Applicant. A copy of such list is attached to this Response and labeled as "Attachment A". The Information Disclosure Statement was accompanied by the requisite

statement and fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d) because a Notice of Allowance was mailed on September 30, 2004.

Each of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement of October 4, 2004, were called to Applicants' attention in Office Actions from two related applications which are also being examined by the Examiner of the present application. These include an Office Action dated September 8, 2004 in related application Serial No. 10/328,057 filed on December 23, 2002 and an Office Action dated September 8, 2004 in related application Serial No. 10/015,868 filed December 12, 2001.

Applicants' undersigned attorney contacted the Examiner in the present application on several occasions prior to payment of the issue fee to expedite the consideration and initializing of the cited references listed in the attachment. However, the file could not be located prior to the issue fee payment deadline. Accordingly, Applicants are submitting this Response under Rule 312 to assure that the application file is accurate and complete. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial the references previously called to her attention, so that the file of the issued patent will be clear, and it will be apparent that the references properly cited by the Applicant have, in fact, been considered by the Examiner.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this submission, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner


telephone, fax or e-mail the undersigned. Otherwise, correspondence should continue to be directed to the correspondence address of record in the application file.

In the event any additional fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fees to the Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo, Cummings & Mehler, Ltd., deposit account, Account No. 50-1039.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 30, 2004

By:


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